

## Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-14 IO-14 INRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 INT-08 EB-11 COME-00

OMB-01 DLOS-07 FEAE-00 DRC-01 EURE-00 /141 W

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O P 031230Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4389

HINFO RUESAT/AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY 3305

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI PRIORITY

USMISSION UN NEW YORK PRIORITY

CINCUSAFE PRIORITY

USDOCOSOUTH PRIORITY

USCINCEUR PRIORITY

USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY

CINCUSAREUGH PRIORITY

DIA DIA-5 WASHDC PRIORITY

COMSIXTHFLT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ADANA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY

AMCONSUL IZMIR PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, TU, GR

SUBJ: GREEK-TURKISH AEGEAN DISPUTE

REF: ANKARA 4225

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SUMMARY: TURK FONMIN IN NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW, WHILE AFFIRMING

THAT GOT DOES NOT WISH CONFRONTATION WITH GREECE, RETIERATES  
THAT TURKEY CANNOT COMPROMISE ITS RIGHTS ON AEGEAN CONTINENTAL  
SHELF AND CANNOT ACCEPT 12-MILE TERRITORIAL SEA IN AEGEAN.  
PRIMIN CONTINUES TO MAKE CONCILIATORY REMARKS. TURK FONMINISTRY  
OFFICIAL INFORMALLY EXPRESSES DISAPPOINTMENT OVER AP STORY THAT  
US HAS WARNED AMERICAN FIRMS AGAINST EXPLORING ON BEHALF OF  
TURKEY IN AEGEAN. END SUMMARY.

1. FONMIN GUNES, IN JUNE 3 INTERVIEW WITH MEDIUM CIRCULATION  
CUMHURIYET, MADE FOLLOWING POINTS ON DISPUTE WITH GREECE  
OVER AEGEAN:

A. TURKEY WAS NOT IN POSITION TO COMPROMISE ON  
CONTINENTAL SHELF QUESTION OR ON POSITION OF TURKS IN WESTERN  
THRACE. EARLIER TURKISH GOVERNMENTS, HE SAID, WANTED TO  
EXAMINE CONFLICTS WITH GREECE IN TERMS OF A "PACKAGE DEAL",  
IMPLYING COMPROMISES ON ONE OF THESE TWO QUESTIONS. HE, GUNES,  
UPON ASSUMING OFFICE, ISSUED INSTRUCTION TO HAVE CONTINENTAL  
  
SHELF ISSUE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY.

B. GREECE, IN GUNES' OPINION, HAD BLOWN CONTINENTAL  
SHELF QUESTION UP INTO BIG ISSUE BECAUSE IT WAS USEFUL TACTIC IN  
GOG FOREIGN POLICY-IN VIEW OF TURKEY'S INSISTING ON ITS RIGHTS  
-AND BECAUSE GREEK REGIME NEEDED TO UNITE ITS PEOPLE BY POINTING  
TO TURKEY AS TRADITIONAL ENEMY.

C. GREECE HAD DECLINED TO NEGOTIATE WITH TURKEY IN  
ORDER TO TRY AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION AT CARACAS LOS  
CONFERENCE WHERE THERE WAS TENDENCY TO EXTEND TERRITORIAL WATERS  
TO 12 MILES. GREECE COULD THEN PRESENT TURKEY WITH FAIT ACCOMPLI  
OF AEGEAN QUESTION. AEGEAN, HOWEVER, WAS DIFFERENT FROM OTHER  
SEAS SUCH AS ATLANTIC AND TURKEY COULD NEVER AGREE 12-MILE  
TERRITORIAL WATERS IN AEGEAN. "GREECE CANNOT IMPOSE THIS UPON  
US BY FORCE."

D. PURPOSE OF GREEK NOTE OF MAY 24, GUNES SAID, WAS  
TO COUNTERACT IMPRESSION GREECE WAS REJECTING NEGOTIATIONS  
(IMPLICATION IS THAT GOG NOTE WAS MERELY A TACTIC, AND NOT A  
SERIOUS OFFER OF DISCUSSIONS WITH TURKEY).  
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E. TURKEY HAD NOT OREDERED STATE OF MILITARY ALARM,  
AND DID NOT WISH CONFRONTATION WITH GREECE. THERE WAS NO BASIC  
CHANGE IN GOT POLICY TOWARDS GREECE.

F. GUNES DENIED PRESS ALLEGATIONS THAT AMBASSADOR  
TASCA AND NATO SECGEN LUNS HAD ASKED GOT TO RECALL EXPLORATORY  
VESSEL "CANDARLI". THESE OFFICIALS HAD ONLY REQUESTED

INFORMATION.

G. FONMIN DISCREDITED PRESS REPORT (SEE BELOW) THAT  
US WISHED TO ALTER MONTREUX CONVENTION.

2. PRIMIN ECEVIT ON JUNE 1 REMARKED TO REPORTERS IN SAME VEIN  
AS DAY BEFORE (RETEL) THAT SITUATION IN AEGEAN WAS NORMAL,  
AND "TURKEY'S "NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS" HAD NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

3. JUNE 1 ISSUE OF MASS CIRCULATION GUNAYDIN ALLEGES THAT US  
UNDERHANDEDLY IS SUPPORTING GREECE AGAINST TURKEY ON  
CONTINENTAL SHELF QUESTION. REASONS, ACCORDING TO GUNAYDIN,  
ARE TO HAVE MONTREUX CONVENTION ALTERED TO ALLOW US AIRCRAFT  
CARRIERS INTO BLACK SEA, AND TO CLOSE AEGEAN TO SOVIET WARSHIPS  
BY MAKING IT A GREEK LAKE. ON OTHER HAND, MEDIUM CIRCULATION  
MILLIYET REPORTS ON SAME DAY THAT WESTERN DIPLOMATS FIND LATEST  
TURKISH MOVES IN AEGEAN JUSTIFIED. US. STATES MILLIYET,  
REQUESTED GOG NOT TO INTERFERE WITH TURK NAVY IN AEGEAN.

4. FINALLY, ALL PAPERS REPORT ATHENS AP STORY THAT USG HAS  
WARNED AMERICAN OIL-DRILLING COMPANIES AGAINST ENTERING INTO  
CONTRACTS WITH TURKISH PETROLEUM COMPANY (TPAO) FOR EXPLORATION  
IN DISPUTED AREA OF AEGEAN UNTIL TURKEY AND GREECE SETTLE  
DISPUTE. COMMENT: MFA ACTION OFFICER FOR LOS MATTERS,  
SECTION CHIEF SIBAY OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, ON  
JUNE 3 INFORMALLY EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT TO EMBASSY OFFICER  
OVER INFORMATION CONTAINED IN AP ARTICLE,BUT SAID MFA DID NOT  
WISH TO BRING THIS UP OFFICIALLY. EMBOFF RESPONDED THAT EVERY  
GOVERNMENT HAS A RESPONSIBILITY WHEN APPROPRIATE TO INFORM ITS  
NATIONALS, INCLUDING COMPANY REPS, OF SITUATION THAT EXISTS IN  
ANY GIVEN AREA OF TENSION, WHETHER GREECE, TURKEY, OR ELSEWHERE,  
AND THIS, TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, WAS AS FAR AS THE USG HAD GONE.  
SPAIN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 03 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Subject:** GREEK-TURKISH AEGEAN DISPUTE  
**TAGS:** PFOR, TU, GR, (GURAN, TURAN)  
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**Type:** TE  
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